Listing of Claims:

No claim amendments are being presented at this time. This listing of claims is provided merely for convenience, and replaces all prior versions and listings of the claims in the application.

1. (Previously presented) An actuator assembly comprising a body portion, at least one actuator arm extending from the body portion, and a damping assembly configured to suppress a torsional vibration mode of the body portion, said vibration mode determined prior to attachment of the damping assembly to the body portion.

2. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly comprises at least one viscoelastic damping layer.

3. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly comprises at least one rigid body attached to the body portion.

4. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the damping assembly comprises a first rigid body, a second rigid body and a viscoelastic damping layer.

5. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 4 wherein the viscoelastic damping layer is interposed between the first and second rigid bodies.

6. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the body portion is configured for rotation about an actuator axis, wherein the body portion comprises opposing first and second ends along said axis, and wherein the damping assembly is positioned so as to be adjacent the first end.

7. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the body portion is rotatable about an actuator axis and wherein the damping assembly adds an asymmetric mass to the actuator assembly with respect to said axis.

8. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 wherein the body portion comprises a window opened to an inner void of the body portion opposite the at least one actuator arm, and wherein the damping assembly comprises a rigid body having a width sized to seat in the window.

9. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 8 wherein the damping assembly comprises first and second rigid bodies and a damping layer and the first rigid body is sized to fit in the window and the second rigid body is wider than the window.

10. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 1 further comprising a data transducer supported by the at least one actuator arm.

11. (Previously presented) A servo writing apparatus comprising:

a spindle assembly; and

an actuator assembly comprising a body portion, at least one actuator arm extending from the body portion toward said spindle assembly, and a damping assembly supported by the body portion and configured to suppress a torsional vibration mode of the actuator assembly determined prior to attachment of the damping assembly to the body portion.

12. (Previously presented) The servo writing apparatus of claim 11 wherein the damping assembly comprises a rigid body or block.

13. (Previously presented) The servo writing apparatus of claim 11 wherein the actuator block comprises a window opened to a cavity or void of the body portion and the damping assembly comprises at least one rigid block disposed in the window.

14. (Previously presented) The servo writing apparatus of claim 11 wherein the body portion is configured for rotation about an actuator axis, wherein the body portion comprises opposing first and second ends along said axis, and wherein the damping assembly is positioned so as to be closer to the first end as compared to the second end.

15. (Previously presented) The servo writing apparatus of claim 11 wherein the actuator assembly further comprises a data transducer supported by the at least one actuator arm.

16. (Previously presented) A method comprising the steps of:

providing an actuator assembly comprising a body portion from which at least one actuator arm extends;

determining a torsional vibration mode of the body portion; and

attaching a damping assembly to the body portion to suppress said torsional vibration mode.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the body portion is configured for rotation about an actuator axis, wherein the body portion comprises opposing first and second ends along said axis, and wherein the damping assembly is positioned so as to be adjacent the first end.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the body portion is rotatable about an actuator axis and wherein the damping assembly adds an asymmetric mass to the actuator assembly with respect to said axis.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the determining step comprises a step of measuring vibration at spaced positions along the actuator body and along the at least one actuator arm.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

21. (Previously presented) An actuator assembly comprising a body portion, at least one actuator arm extending from the body portion, and a damping assembly supported by

the body portion, said actuator assembly formed by a process comprising steps of providing said actuator assembly, determining a torsional vibration mode of the body portion, and attaching the damping assembly to the body portion to suppress said torsional vibration mode.

22. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 21 wherein the damping assembly comprises at least one viscoelastic damping layer.

23. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 21 wherein the body portion is configured for rotation about an actuator axis, wherein the body portion comprises opposing first and second ends along said axis, and wherein the damping assembly is positioned so as to be closer to the first end as compared to the second end.

24. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 21 wherein the body portion is rotatable about an actuator axis and wherein the damping assembly adds an asymmetric mass to the actuator assembly with respect to said axis.

25. (Previously presented) The actuator assembly of claim 21 further comprising a data transducer supported by the at least one actuator arm.